GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4374
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Issue of Inter-Connectivity
Hari Shri G.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have demanded for an increase in the fee that they charge from the new TSPs to entertain its calls on their networks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the TRAI has rejected the said demand of the TSPs and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the TRAI has asked the existing TSPs to provide requisite number of interconnection points to the new TSPs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the TSPs thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) In April 2015, a service providers' association, inter-alia, requested the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to review the Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (11th Amendment) Regulations, 2015 and sought for an increase in the termination charges. After examining the request of the service providers' association, TRAI informed them that the termination charge prescribed as 14 paise per minute (for wireless to wireless calls) has been arrived at after following a transparent and exhaustive process of consultation and it requires no revision.
(d) & (e) The issue of delay/ denial of requisite number of point of interconnection by the existing Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) was raised by a new TSP and after examination of the issue, TRAI issued a Direction dated 07.10.2016 to all TSPs to ensure compliance of the Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations, 2009 dated the 20.03.2009 and the terms and conditions of their respective licenses and to furnish a compliance report. In response, the TSPs furnished their compliance to the TRAI's Direction dated 07.10.2016.

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